

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,909
Response filed November 16, 2004
Reply to OA dated August 16, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are currently being considered, of which claims 1-3 and 7-9 have been amended.
No new claims have been added. Applicants believe that no new matter has been introduced.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, and has noted that section lines (i.e., P-P) should indicate where the section view is to be found (i.e., 4-4). In the enclosed replacement sheet, the P-P symbols have been changed to 4-4 symbols. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that this objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure, abstract, and claims due to informalities. In particular, the Examiner has suggested that non-idiomatic English has been utilized. Applicants have amended the abstract, specification, and claims to further clarify language used therein. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that this objection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-9 due to informalities. In particular, the Examiner has commented on specific aspects of claims 1, 2, 7, and 9. Regarding claim 7, lines 14-15, a structure of the groove 6b, groove bottom portion 6f, and slant portions 6g, 6g' is supported by the application at Fig. 6 and p. 31, lines 19-21. Claims have been amended in response to this objection. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that this objection to claims 1-9 should be withdrawn.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 1, and replaces the original sheet of FIG. 1. In FIG. 1, reference symbols "P-P" have been replaced with reference symbols -- 4-4 -- for a section line indicating where a section view can be found.

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Before turning to the cited art, a brief review of the present invention is in order. The present invention provides an auxiliary device module including positioning portions 6 having a plurality of pressure contact receiving grooves 6b each being pre-formed with complimentary shape; and wire fixing portions 6h hugging at least one wire 4a, wherein the wire fixing portions 6h extend upwardly from the receiving grooves 6b (see FIG. 6 of the present invention). The present invention also provides the following features: pillar portion 6i, locking portion 6j, groove bottom portion 6f, slant portion 6g, and insulation cover 4c (see FIG. 6). Wire fixing portions such as the pillar portion 6i and locking portion 6j are described at Figs. 6 and 10 and p. 51, lines 8-21, for example.

The subject matter set forth in amendments to claims is supported by the application as originally filed (see FIGS. 6 and 10 and corresponding portions of the specification, for example).

Claims 1-3 and 7 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over USP 6,079,848 (**Ahroni**) in view of USP 5,675,890 (**Yamamoto**).

Claims 4-6 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over **Ahroni** in view of **Yamamoto** and alleged "Admitted Prior Art" (**APA**).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections of claims 1-7.

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Ahroni, Yamamoto, and the alleged **APA**, alone or in combination, fail to describe, teach, or suggest the following features of claim 1, as amended: “a pillar portion and a locking portion” in combination with the other claimed features. Claims 2-6 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1.

Ahroni, Yamamoto, and the alleged **APA**, alone or in combination, fail to describe, teach, or suggest the following features of claim 7, as amended: “a pillar portion” in combination with the other claimed features.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections of claims 1-7 should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has indicated that claim 8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections set forth in the Office Action mailed August 16, 2004. Applicants have rewritten claim 8 in independent form including features of the base claim. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8 and 9, as amended, are in condition for allowance.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

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In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Replacement Sheets of Drawing (Fig. 1)
Substitute Abstract of the Disclosure